MR. VILAS'S REPORT.

THE YEAR'S WORK OF THE INTERIOR DE-PARTMENT

A RADICAL REORGANIZATION OF THE LAND OFFICE URGED IN BEHALF OF SETTLERS WHO ARE WAITING FOR TITLES-CON-

DITION OF THE INDIANS. Washington, Dec. 2 .- The report of the Secretary of the Interior will be issued to-morrow. It is a bulky document of nearly 150 pages and treats ex-haustively the work of the various Bureaus under the charge of Secretary Vitas. The Secretary complains at the outset of the lack of symmetry and organization in the Department, but contents himself with this immendation toward simplifying its methods:

single recommendation toward simplifying its methods:

I shall, however, venture at this time upon no further recommendation than that authority be given the Secretary to prescribe and define by written regulations the particular duties of the assistant ecretaries and to authorize each to do, and validate by his signature as such assistant, such acts in performance of the duties incumbent on the Secretary as he may so depute them to perform. Much of this is now, perhaps, within the just implication of stantiory power, but the boundaries of implied powers are so uncertain that when their exercise does not endanger rights, it often begets apprehension that greatly impairs the value of the acts. It illustrates the present inconvenience to mention, as one of many instances, that the accounting officers of the Treasury require, under existing law, the signature of the head of the Department (nor will accept an assistant's, except as Acting Secretary) in allowance of every account, requisition or warrant that imposes obligation or requires disbursement of public money; notwithstanding the great number of these transactions and the course of their actinatment in various different offices render it impossible that the Secretary can personally know anything of the greater share of them. Ferhaps, with the suggested authority, the power of the head of the hepartment to prescribe regulations to govern the business and officers under his charge will enable all such changes to be effected as are requisite to proper organization.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

On the subject of Public Lands, the report says:
Patents were issued during the last year to the

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On the subject of Public Lands, the report says:

Patents were issued during the last year to the number of 47,180 for agricultural lands, covering an area estimated to exceed 7,500,000 acres, an increase of 22,622 patents over the number issued the preceding year, with a greater acreage by more thre 3,000,000. One thousand and thirty-four mineral patents and 114 cond-land patents, the latter for 15,988.72 acres, were fissued. Of railroad lands three were patented or certified \$29,102.45 acres. Under the swamp-land act title passed to states for 96,515.19 acres; and under other internal improvement and educational gravits to various states 99,205.42 acres were conveyed. On miscellaneous claims, embracing private land claims, donations, Indian severality grants and serip locations, patents issued covering 25,402.51 acres; making the aggregate quantity of land for which title was passed during the year. In part reckoned and estimated in part, 8,005,194.29 acres.

The several States and Territories within the limits of which these patented and certified lands fall, and the number of acres in each, are, respectively, as follows:

AUGUSTOS	Acres		Acres.
Alabama		Mississippi	68,966.00
Arkansas	234,930.67	Missouri	167,554.99
Culifornia		Montana	107.377.58
Colorado	214,405,45	Nebraska	563,172.90
Dakota2	609,718 50	Nevada	83,417.0
Florida	133,001.53	NOW ME AM Treese	40,760.00
Illinois	200:00	Ohio	320.00
Istaleo		Oregon	268,024.8
lowa		Utalia.ven	52,640.00
Tediana	7.00000	Washington Tery	245,096.2
Kansas1	400,235 21	Wisconsin	649,551.93
Louisiana	110,639.78	Wyoming	43,446.5
Michigan	64,153.01		
Minnesota	888,019.57	Total	8,605,194.2

specific claims have been newly asserted to 1e,776, 521.92 acres during the year.

The receipts from the disposal of public lands were \$12,701,072; from sales of indian lands, \$821,113.77; a total of \$15,522,145.77. No other year since 1830 has furnished so large receipts from the public lands. Of final entries, there were pending on the 30th of June last, 238.156; and the number of such entries made during the last year was 70,448. This latter number exceeds all the final entries disposed of by patent during the last year; so that instead of a diminishment of arrearages, the accumulation of cases has increased. The Commissioner expresses the hope that

day, to afford to the public the relief to which they are entitled from their Government. The Commissioner recommends an increase of the force of his office, a natural suggestion. But, although I venture in with difficence, because of the limited opportunity afforded me for study of the subject. It is my opinion that a thorough and radical rearganization of the Land Office ought to be the first step taken, accommanded by a provision of quarters suitable to the performance of the work. Nother an increase of force nor a reorganization of the flucus can be made with much increase of efficiency while decisis, tract-books.

pled by the Land Office.

My attention has been drawn to no branch of Governmental administration which appeals so cognity, in every aspect of wisdom and justice, for intelligent, thorough and effective Congressional action for its relief as the Land Office. The delays which exist are not to be attibuted in any just measure to the officers and elerks of that bureau. It ought to be made the subject of single and special examination by some commission or committee of Congress in co-operation with the officers of the Eureau and the Department by which, perhaps, a scheme of relief may be devised, adequate to the effective and possible of adoption.

LANDS RESTORED TOTHE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

LANDS RESTORED TO THE PUBLIC DOMAIN. The Commissioner of the General Land Office presents in his report a statement of the quantities of lands which have been restored to the public domain

LANDS	ACTUALLY	RESTORED	TO	THE	PUBLI
		DOMAIN.			
Lands in	granted railros	d limits restore	1	2,	108,417.3
PURSUE.		rants under net		28.	253,547 0
Ranfroad	indemnity lands	restored.	*****	21,	328,600 0 759,553 8
Entries	under pre-empt	ien, homestead,	time	er-	
		d, and trailer is			

cancelled in regular course of examination and proceedings in coneral Land office for abandonment, ligarity and other causes. 29,729,761 48 availst State selections (internal improvements

Total actually restored to the public domain and opened to entry and settlement 83,158,990 51 INDIAN APPAIRS. The general condition of our Indian people and of the affairs of the Government directed to their care and improvement has during the last year continued

annihitation, but they may yet be monified into civilized form, embraced within the folds of society, and cievared by enlightenment to a condition of development and happiness which shall to some degree atone in the indians of the future for the injustice which has been suffered by the Indians of the past in their contact with white men.

The policy of the Government, for some time past consistently pursued by the course of legislation and administration, has wholly broken up the titled system of government among several of the tribes and bands, and with others has weakened it to a stage of disintegration. Individuality is Indian manhood has been encouraged and fostered, and a realization of personal responsibility extended. The punishment of lesser misdemensors among them by the "courts of Indian offences," organized and conducted in limitation of civilized methods, appears to have produced Indian offences," organized and conducted in limita-tion of civilized methods, appears to have graduced good results. The extension of the purisdiction of the courts which sit within the Territories that embrace their reservations to the trial of the higher crimes of nurder, man laughter, assault with intent to kill, rape, arson, burglary and intent, whether upon Indians or other persons, has contributed to the same end by sub-jecting to punishment offenders who often escaped at together. It would probably be well to add to the efficiency of this law by Congressional provision for the expenses necessary to its enforcement, especially when the offence is against another Indian, because from the fact that the re-ervation lands and Indian property thereon are not taxable, there may be less

when the offence is against another Indian, because from the fact that the reservation lands and Indian property thereon are not taxable, there may be issay that the expect the laws among the Indians at the cost of the people in the Territories.

The wisdom of the statute of the 3d of March. 1887, which directs the immediate adjustment of the rathered grants remaining unadjusted, and of the various provisions of that act for the protection of settlers and the Government, has been smiticently demonstrated already by the disclosures resulting from the action of the lureau and the Department in the execution of the law. Considerable progress has been made in this matter, and already it has been found that lands have been certified or patented for the use of seven different reflected companies and

lev Railroad Company
Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway Company
Persacola and Georgia Railroad Company, Ptorida
Alabama and Fiorida Railroad Company, Ptorida
Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Company
Edint Paul Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway Conf.

Coos Bay wagon road.

CENSUS OF INDIANS It was provided by the act of July 4, 1884, that thereafter "cach Indian agent be required, in his annual report, to submit a census of the Indians of his agency or upon the reservation under his charge"; but no appropriation was made to meet the expenses necessarily incident to a complete census, more par

1879-780. 226,127 1884-85. 250,244
1880-81. 201,851 1886-85. 247,761
1881-82. 256,652 1887-85. 246,065
In the total number last reported as above, viz., 246,065, there is included an estimated 20,060, embracing those who are scattered over different parts of the Western country, chefty upon the Pacific Coast, beyond the scope of agencies. Some of these are located upon portions of the public domain under laws granting Indian homesteads, and are making pleasing efforts for moral and social advancement; but much the larger portion are of the wandering class, who, in small bands, abids in remote localities, generally harmless and peaceable, subsisting themselves with more or less success. These figures do not embrace the Indians of Alaska.

The entire extent of territory now in a state of reservation for Indian purposes, including all portions of the Indian Territory, whether in fact occupied or unoccupied by Indians, is 112,413,440 acres; being equivalent to an average of 456 acres for each Indian, computed on the last reported number of the total population, including those est mated as out-did the reservations. Of this area, about a1,020,129 acres are within the scope of the general altoment law of 1887, and afford an average for the population residing upon such lands, amounting to 173,085, of about 465 acres to each.

The Cherokees, Creeks, Checkass, Chickasaws and Seminoles, constituting the five civilized tribes, the Osages, Miamis, Poorlas, and Saes and Foxes, of the Indian Territory, and the Senera Nation, in New York, are excepted from the provisions of the altoment act. The territory occuped by them embraces 21,090,695 a res, not con ning therewith the 6,024,239 acres of the theodee Outlet, the 1,857,501 acres lying in the Indian Territory occuped by them embraces 21,090,695 a res, not con ning therewith the character of the various Indian against disclose that, not Indian territory and the 1,571,575 acres lying in the Indian Territory occuped by them embraces 21,090,695 a res, not con ning therewith th

PENSIONS. Original pensioners to the number of 60,252 were added to the pension rolls during the last fiscal year, and increases were granted in 45.716 cases. The names of 15,730 pensioners were dropped from the rolls for various causes, so that at the end of the year the total number remaining of all classes was 452,557, of which 323,020 were army invalid pensioners, 90.882 army widows, children, and dependent relatives; 3,815 navy invalids, 2,083 navy widows, children, and dependent relatives; 806 survivors of the war of 1412, and 10,787 widows of those who served in that war; 10,040 Mexican soldiers, and 5,104 widows of Mexican soldiers. added to the pension rolls during the last fiscal year.

soldiers.
At the present time 102 different rates of pension prevail, ranging from \$2 per month to \$410.00 per month; but the average annual value of each pension at the close of the year is shown to be \$125.50; and the aggregate annual value of all pensi 856,707,220 92, an increase for the year 85,882,579 70.

invinish sensibly the mass, if, as may be reasonably expected, so many final entiries shall be made during the current as during the past year. No reasonable expectation is, therefore, held out to the settler who as met all the reculrements of the law that he can eccive the evidence of his title for rearly four years first his proof shall have been submitted. When it is also considered that, in many instances, defects of proof which is also considered that, in many instances, defects of proof which is also considered that, in many instances, defects of proof which require further action on his part, to be followed by further delays is securing a final disposition, the default of the Government to its citizens becomes glaring and pointil.

REFORMS NEEDED IN THE LAND OFFICE.

Some efficacious changes of method ought to be evised and put in operation at the earliest practicable ay, to afford to the public the relief to which they re entitled from their Government. The Commissioner recommends an increase of the force of list force, a natural suggestion. But, although I venture

THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION.

THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION. I desire to renew the recommendation of my prede-cessor in office, in the last annual report, that this Commission be made independent of the Department of the Interior, required to report directly to the Presi dent or to Congress, and authorized to appoint its own officers and employes, and to deal directly with the Treasury in the expenditure of, and accounting for, the appropriations made for its support.

DAKOTA AND WASHINGTON TERRITORIES. The large area of Dakota Territory and the drift of population westward, combine to render the figures of its increase from about 135,000 in 1850 to over as now estimated, apparently unprecedented in a single Teratory. Two-thirds of the present popula-

tion are natives, and a majority of the foreign born population is of Scandinavian origin.

During the last fiscal year there have been entered 1,838,142 acres of public land, and title acquired by final proof or otherwise to 1,616,630 acres more. In addition to this the sales of land to settlers by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company and by private owners have been large.

The assessment roll of the Territory aggregates \$161,429,974 for 1888, not including railroad property with a valuation of \$40,000,001 as it is taxed upon gross earnings. The Governor places the actual wealth of the Territory at \$320,000,000 as a moderate estimate.

was 66,079; it is now 167,982 at a low estimate, and the Governor believes it is 20,000 above this figure.

The assessed value of the taxable property of the Territory is \$84,021,182, a gain of over \$05,070,000 during the past ten years, and of \$23,058,000 for the past year, due in part to the addition for the first time of railroad property to the assessment rolls.

The Secretary devotes a great deal of space to the negotiations with the Sloux Indians, reports of which have appeared from time to time in The Tribune. gress at this session.

Director of the Mint, has submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury his annual report. The value of the deposits of gold was \$80,894,456, including \$8,668,959 of redeposits. The deposits and purchases of silver were 35,941,507 standard ounces, of the value at coining rate of \$41,822,846. This included redeposits of the value of \$401,331. Of the gold de posited, 802,406,306 was classified as of domestic production, against \$32,973,027 in the preceding year. These figures tend to a reduction of \$500,000 in the production of gold in the United States. The foreign gold bullion deposited aggregated 821.741,042, foreign gold coin \$14,596,885, a total of \$36,337,927, against \$32,467,840 in the year preceding. Old material was deposited in the form of jewelry, bars, plate, etc. containing gold of the value of \$2,988,750. silver bullion deposited and purchased, 857,362,648
[32,135,165-79 standard ounces) was classified as of longstle, production of the produ silver bullion deposited and purchased, 807,393,648 domestic production, \$1.06-,3-4 as foreign silver bullion, and \$87,236 as foreign silver cofn.

The total coinage was 100,000,547 pieces, of the collection of the highest merit. It is known as the coinage was 100,000,547 pieces, of the collection of the highest merit. It is known as the coinage was 100,000,547 pieces, of the collection of the collectio

The fold column was 100,000 and 100 was gold.

value of \$03.719,242, of which \$28.364,170 was gold.

\$2,718,673 silver dollars, \$1,417,422 subsidiary silver ment, the vast and increasing volume conducted by

occasioned by the demand for 5-cent nickels and

1-cent bronze pieces.

occasioned by the demand for 5-cent hickers and 1-cent bronze pieces.

Gold bars were exchanged for full-weight United States gold coin, as authorized by the act of May 26, 1882, of the value of 815,846,985, against 87,602,659 in the preceding year indicating an increased demand for gold bars for export. Gold and sliver bars were manufactured to the value of 850,242,015, and 1,397 metals were manufactured.

The total imports of gold coin and builton during the year were \$43,934,317 and the total exports \$18,3576,234, or an excess of imports of \$25,333,083.

There was a net loss of \$2,238,188 by export of silver. The production of gold and silver in the United States for the calendar year 1887 is estimated to have been \$33,000,000 gold and \$33,357,000 silver. The production of gold throughout the world has remained nearly constant, while the production of silver has increased in the last four years about \$25,000,000.

The stock of gold and silver coin in the United States on July 1, 1888, is estimated to have been 604 coin, \$505,330,887, silver deliars, \$200,708,750; subsidiary silver coin, \$76,406,370. At the same date there was gold builton awaiting coinage in the lasts of the value of \$110,409,018; silver builton, \$5,550,388; melted trade dollars, \$6,545,554, making a total metallic stock of \$1,002,420,603. Of this there was in the Treasury of the United States \$504,533,172, in National banks \$105,455,592, and in other banks and in seneral circulation \$632,401,200.

SHIPMENTS OF MARQUETTE IRON ORE. Negaunce, Mich., Dec. 2 (Special).—The last ship-ment of iron ore from the mines of the Marquette range for the season was made yesterday. The lake

GREATEST IN THE WORLD.

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S ANNUAL RE-PORT ON THE POSTAL SERVICE.

MR. DICKINSON GIVES PLENTY OF STATISTICS. BUT MAKES FEW RECOMMENDATIONS-NOT A WORD ABOUT PENNY POSTAGE.

Washington, Dec. 2 .- The Postmaster-General's reevery division and branch of the postal service for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1888, with many striking comparisons with previous years, showing a re-markable expansion of business and a large increase in expenditure. The following are some of the lead-ing statements and recommendations of the text of the report:

The total expenditures were \$56,885,403. The estimated deficiency, therefore, is \$4,190,227. The total number of post offices is 57,376, an increase over 1885 of 6,124.

The number of postmasters appointed during the year ended June 30, 1888, was 12,288, of which 6,521 were upon resignations and commissions expired, 1.244 upon removals, 650 to fill vacancies by death and 3,864 on establishment of new post-offices. One thousand six hundred and forty-five post-offices

were discontinued during the year. STATISTICS OF THE SERVICE. In the rallway mail service an increase of about

12,000 miles is shown, as against the previous year's estimated increase of 6,000 miles. The total volume of business in the money order division for the year is upward of \$143,000,000, and shows a net profit to the Government of about \$50,000. The volume of ordinary mail matter has largely increased, and it is estimated that the revenue on the number of pieces handled during the past year would have been, without reductions of postage, upward of \$70,000,000. The free delivery service was during the last fiscal year extended to 169 additional places under the Act of January 3, 1887, making a total of 358 free delivery cities. The number of The number of

carriers was increased from 5,310 to 6,346. Carefully prepared statistics are submitted in every branch of the service, demonstrating, the report says, increased efficiency over previous years. The report submits elaborate schedules of railway

mail connections in the South and between the Northwest and South, showing constantly increasing business and need of more attention and means for its proper care, with a showing that the subject has recived marked consideration during the last fiscal

The Postmaster-General sumbits that appropriations for special pay to railroads should be better dis-tributed, or if need be, increased, if the policy of special appropriations for increased pay is to be continued. He calls attention to the settled appli-cations of such appropriations to the payment of one or two lines of the road, and the absence of any such means to secure by contract better connections becommercial South. He states that by special appropriations to a few of the railroads the impression is given that the Department has the disbursement of a fund for all, and dissatisfaction is created by increased pay to some for service no better or more needed, if so much, as that on the lines of others who receive no such special favors. Notwithstanding the absence of any such funds, he proceeds to show, in addition to many special additions of improved service upon shorter lines, that many through fast mails have been added by negotiation and contract. The through fast mails East are the first in the history

SUPERIOR TO OTHER NATIONS. Statistics are submitted contrasting the American with that of Great Britain, Germany and France, demonstrating that in cheapness of postage, vice and volume of mail matter transmitted, the postal system of the United States is the leading one of the world. The average number of pieces of mail matter to each inhabitant of the several countries named, taking the last census as the basis of the calculations, is now about as follows: United states, pieces per capita, 71; Great Britain.

pieces per capita, 61; Germany, ditto, 41; France,

8400.067, of which \$404.010 was for transporting mails of United States origin. Of this amount there was paid for trans-Atlantic service, \$353,262; for trans-Pacilic service, \$42,563; and for miscellaneous service, \$58,556.

TRANSATLANTIC STEAMSHIP SERVICE.

The mails for Europe have been invariably as-signed each month to those steamers which made the fastest time, as ascertained from an average of a number of trips as reported by the steamship companies.

The fastest time from New-York to London by way of Queenstown was made by the Cunard steamship Umbria, namely, 179.7 hours.
The fastest time from New-York to London by way of Southampton was made by the North German Lloyd

mely, 1se hours, rom New-York to Havre was made insatlantic steamship La Cham-hours.

e, namely, 1-36 hours, the year negotiated a Department during the year negotiated a Lonvention between the United states and a which went into operation Misrch 1, 1888, and virtually one postal territory of the United and Caradia. Uniformity of postage rates had y been established, but there was still the reon that no merchandise of any kind could be 6 Canada. This restriction has now been reand, with the exception of specially proarticles, merchandise can now be sent at class rates of postage.

the last rates of postage, fiscal year ended June 30, 1888, with Barbadoes, Banamas, Birtish Honduras and Mexico.

Parcel post conventions are now pending with all Central and South American States, and will obtless prove great benefit to American commerce.

with South and central America and zeroto, the postmaster-(separal reproductly reasserts his views against making the postal administration the discusser of subsidies. He demonstrates how, in his opinion, each a function would happer the mall service, and urges that if the policy of subsidiating American lines for the promotion of commerce be adopted, the appropriations be voted directly to the owners.

After submitting through the report various recom-mendations relating to the improvement of the detail of the service, the Postmaster-General submits the

THE COUNTRY'S COIN SUPPLY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF DR. KIMBALL, DIRECTOR OF THE MINT.

Washington, Dec. 2.-Dr. James P. Kimball, the cach office, which would give the Postmaster-General submits the following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the Department and reported favorable in the Lorentz the following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the last ension, would provide a simulated by returns showing the amount of business transacted at each office, which would give the Postmaster-Heneral submits the following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the service. The following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the service of the following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the service of the following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the service of both houses, but not acted upon at the last ension, would provide a simulation of the service of the following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the service of the following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the service of the following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the service of the following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the service of the following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the service of the following of more general interest:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the service of the following of more general interests:

A bill prepared in this Department and reported favorable in the service of the following of the service of the following of the servi returns showing the amount of business transacted at each effice, which would give the Postmaster-General the power to purchase sites and erect permanent buildings for post-office purposes. I had the henor to furnish the committees with the data showing that, in my judgment, sound business principles dictated such a policy, and demonstrating that it would be a measure of sconomy for the forecast and the commanders with the pregent syinvariably the case that strife arises among citizens of towns over the fixing of a new site for the post office. countries, and it is frequently difficult for the negat of the Department to determine whether the case presented for the location has stronger popular support in the interest of the general convenience of the community, or whether it is not made up in the interest of mere real estate

coins, and \$1,218,076 were minor coins.

The minor coinage of the Mint at Philadelphia was the largest in the history of the Mint service, being est upus mission at rates within the means of ad est transmission at rates within the means of all will press this subject upon the attention of conwill press this subject upon the attention of Congress with more and more urgency. The chief dimensions in the way are the great 45st 0! 92361 meriods and the assence of saleguates which, according to the theory of the present mail service, should protect the privacy of correspondence. I have given the subject much consideration, and I believe that the myeffice greates of this country has prached a stage in discovery in electric science when these problems may be solved. The subject is of such great importance to the people that I believe an opportunity should be given for the presentation and examination of inventors which have been informally presented to the committees of Congress, the Department and the public, and that a stimulus should be given to investors to turn their attention to the improvement of old

FOLICIA-CLASS FOST OFFICES

I have the honor to recommend a revision of the law regulating the compensation of fourth-class post-24.20.002. Of this the United States in the Standard. Through all reductions of postage rates in the rate of compensation in harmony with the reductions in postage rates; increased laker it is been in postage. The lake More ore will be unreaced business resulting from lower postage, which at the same time has reduced compensation.

The atention of Congress is requested to the recemptance in the standard of the rate of compensation of fortificates postage in the standard. Through all reductions of postage received has foreigned the standard. Through all reductions of postage received has foreigned the standard. Through all reductions of postage received has foreigned the standard. Through all reductions of postage received has foreigned the standard. Through all reductions of postage received has foreigned the standard. Through all reductions of postage received has foreigned the standard. Through a postage received has foreigned the standard. Through a postage received has foreigned the standard of compensation to those officials. They are of compensation to the standard of compensation of foreigned and which was intereded by the act of Congress standard of compensation of foreigned and the standard of compensation of compensati

regarding the classification and salaries of clerks attached to the larger post-offices.

While the free delivery service, with its 35s offices, has received marked legislative consideration, providing careful cassification and promotion of carriers, and providing substitutes for vacations and helidays, and a limitation in the appropriation for but eight hours' service per day, at a total cost for that service during the current fiscal year of about seven nillions of money, there has been provided for the cest of clerks in all the post-offices of the United States but \$5,950,000.

ALLOWANCES FOR RENT FOR THIRD-CLASS The act of Congress approved July 24, 1888, au-thorized allowances for rent, fuel and light for third class post offices, as frequently recommended by the OFFICES. Department. On the 1st of July, 1888, 1,908 offices were assigned to this third class and under the operasigned to the third class from October 1, 1888, making

signed to the third class from Geteber I, 1888, making the total number 1,285.

The limitations of the said act by which the maximum annual rent for an office of the third-class was fixed at £500, and the maximum allowance for fuel and light at £50, should, in my opinion, be repealed, as the best interests of the service regular discretionary authority in the head of the Department to fix these allowances, having regard to local needs.

The Postmasier-General calls attention to the abuses of the finaling privilege and recommends a revision of the law with penalties for its violation. He carefully reviews the statutes and points out their want of uniformity. The following is his closing paragraph on the subject.

It the franching privilege were abolished, and a regular yearly allowance for the purchase of postage-stamps, made reactly allowance for the purchase of postage-stamps, made reactly allowance, and no unauthorized person could make use of the mails beyond his own allowance, and no unauthorized person could make use of the mails beyond his own allowance, and no unauthorized person could make use of the mails to forward unoficial matter. Agricultural colleges, now enjoying the franking privilege might be furnished through the Department of Agricultural, with free penalty envolopes.

The Postmasters-General calls attention to the fact that the law reposes no authority in any official of the Government to compel owners of railroads to receive and carry the mails of the United States, and says it is in urgant need of revision.

Recommendation is also made that at the termination of existing contracts for the manufacture of postage-stamps, postal-cards, and stamped envelopes, the Government take the work into its own hands.

GENERAL HARRISON PRESIDED.

UNITED CHARTTIES OF INDIANAPOLIS. OPENING THE ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES WITH A SHORT SPEECH-THE MEETING A CROWDED ONE.

THE TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Indianapolis, Dec. 2.-The most notable thing that

the President-elect did to-day was to lend his name and presence to a gathering in the interest of charity The fifty-third annual meeting of the United Charitable Organizations of Indianapolis was held in English's Opera House, and the presiding officer for the occasion was the President-elect, who has always been prominent in the work. There were as many people ent as could be crowded within the walls of the building. General Harrison opened the program is of building. General Harrison opened the program so of speeches and muste with a brief address, as fo sws:

I congratulate the Indianapolis Eenevolent society and those later but not less preclous charities which have gathered now a circle about it, upon the manifest interest in the community which this great meeting attests. I recall many meetings of the Renevolent Society in contrast with this. It was formerly the babit to hold these antiversary meetings in the evening of Thanksirving Itay. Many of them in the earlier years of my recoficetion were but sparsely attended. Perhaps this was the result of the lethargy of overfeeding on Thanksirving Day, for notwithstanding the sparse attendance which sometimes rewarded the invitations of the society to its anniversary, there has always been, I believe, a widespread and deep interest in the work of this benevourth organization. Perhaps, in the fact that by the association of these charities a larger number of those wing are attively interested in benevolent work has been gathered together, we may account for the surface hours with a now this in the production of the second to the interest of the second together, we may account for the surface hours with a now this in the second. and not that by the association of these charities a larger number of those who are actively interested in benevolent work has been gathered together, we may account for the wider interest which is now felt in this community. I congratulate the city of Indianapills upon this magnificent demonstration of the fact that its people are not absorbed simply in trade, that their hearts are not given wholly to things that pertain to selfishness, but that liberally and benevolence, a friendly disposition to help the unfortunate, is as characteristic of our city as its enterprise in the lines of trade.

cannot refrain from saying that I was greatly I cannot refrain from saying that I was greated pleased to notice, within the last few days, that the Governor of one of our Western States and the manager of a reform school, which was there being formed, had come to Italiana to find the model of the institution, which they were about to start upon its work of usefulness. I am sure there is in this matter of congratulation, and we stail be glad when it shall be true of every benevolent institution in our state.

At a late hour to-night General Longstreet, the Southern Republican, arrived in the city. He comes to talk about the so-called Southern question and further he is at present unwilling to say.

AS BUSY AS EVER AT CABINET-MAKING.

The Fifth Avenue Hotel was the meeting place of sily engaged in discussing the formation of the new busily engaged in discussing the formation of the new Cabinet and kindred questions relating to the coming Administration. Among those who had passed through during the pieceding twenty-four hours on their way to the opening of the Congressional session, tarrying only long enough to drop some rich morsel of information or goesty, to be carefully considered by their friends after their departure, were senators Hoar, of Massachusetts, and Cullom, of Illinois, and Congressmen Milliken, of Maine, French, of Connecticut, and West and Sherman, of New York, Senators Arnold, Erwin and Vedder, Assemblyman Gibbs, ex-Congressman Adams and other well-known representatives of the popular will, present and past, quietly canvassed the prospects of New York State's recognition in General Harrison's family of counsellors. eral Harrison's family of

PRESIDENTIAL PRIVATE SECRETARIES. Washington letter in The Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette.

Washington letter in The Cincinnati Commercial-foazette.
During Lamont's incumbency it has, in spite of what I have said, been advanced in importance. This has come abought through the real or supposed intimate relations between Lamont and Civoland. It is probable that the relations, so far as public hustness is concerned, have not been as intimate as Mr. Lamont has allowed them to appear and be represented, but it is true that more has been made of the office of private secretary during Cleveland's Presidency than ever before.

Some time ago some gentlemen, speaking of the claims of Adam Badean that he had been private secretary to General Grant, said that he knew Badean had never been private secretary to President Grant, the fact of the matter is that, when General Grant became President in 1800, he appointed Robert M. Douglas, the cidest son of stephen A. Louglas, as his private secretary, and Mr. James T. Ely as assistant secretary. Mr. Douglas held the position until 1872, when he was appointed United States Marshal for Western North Carolina, and was succeeded then by Levi P. Luckey, who had, two years before, succeeded Mr. Ely as assistant. Luckey was appointed major and paymaster in the United States Amy, which position he still holds. In 1876, when the smash of the whishey ring exposures came, Mr. Luckey retired with his friend General Babcock, and Ulyssos S. Grant, Jr., was made secretary, with Major culver C. Sniffen a assistant. Buck' Grant served until the end of his father's second term, and Major Sniffen remained until the was appointed paymaster in the army, the day before General Grant's term expired. Besides these officials, three army officers who had been addedecing, when Grant was General of the army, were placed on ditty at the White House and were styled secretaries. Those were Generals Fred T. Dent (General Grant's brother in-law, Horace Forfer and Orytle A. Baboock. When the latter was relieved from duty at the White House, in 1875, no other officer was detailed in his place, but Gener

General Baleau was never, in any sense, Grant's private secretary.

From March, 1864, to March, 1869, while General Grant was at the head of the army, General Badeau was designated as "milliary secretary," but the conflictual secretary was Horace Purter and not Radeau. There was no secretary to the President prior to 1848, but in 1805 Courress authorized a clerk to the President, "to sign land patents," and President Jackson appointed Andrew Jackson Donelson, his nephew, as "signer of land patents," Later, Major Donelson changed his name, and he appears in the Congressional Directory for the second session, XXIVth Congress, as "Andrew Jackson, Jr."

Martin Van Buren had for his signer of patents Major A. Van Buren during his whole term. Whether or not General Harrison appointed any one to the place is not certain, but the next succeeding directory gives the name of John Tyler, in, and that gentleman took to himself the style and fittle of "secretary," to sign, etc., although there was no warrant of law for it.

for if.

President Polk appointed his nephew, James Knox Walker, and that gentleman in 1845 became the first private secretary to the President," under a law passed at the second session of the XXIXth Congress.

law passed at the second session of the XXIXth Congress.

Colonel William S. Rilss, of the army, was General Taylor's secretary, and Millard P. Filmore served lifs uncle in the same capacity.

Sidney Websier, who afterward became the son-inlaw of the Hon. Hamilton Fish, was the private secretary of Franklin Pierce, and following him James Buchanan had his nephew. James Buchanan Henry, for secretary, who, Him Major Donelson, chanced his name, and in the latter part of his term of office was known as James Buchanan. Jr.

Colonel John Hay is another private secretary who was never a private secretary. Mr. Lincolo's secretary was John C. Nerolay, and Colonel Hay was given an army commission in the volunteers and detailed for special duty at the White House.

Prior to President Jackson's time the elerical labor at the Executive Mansion was performed by elerks detailed from the various Executive departments, but as the country grew in population the executive labors increased, and letchsluive aid was given to previde an authorized force, and in 1895. Congress not only added an "assistant private secretary," but promoted the "signer of patents" to be secretary during all

moted the "signer of patents" to be secretary for that purpose.

Colonel Robert Johnson was secretary during all of his father's incumbency of the Presidency, and Colonel Robert Morrow, who afterward committed spiritide while on duty at San Francisco, was the first assistant. Morrow was succeeded in 1867, when he was appointed paymaster, in the army by William Wailace Warden, who new essides here, practising law. During Mr. Johnson's time a detail of army officers were placed on regular duty at the White House, as I go sapped about some weeks ago, and the detail insided to eneral Reben D. Missey, Colonel Browning, W. G. Moore mow Chief of Police here, and Wright Rives and Caprain Andrew K. Long, In the "Congressional Directories" of those days they are styled "secretaries," and it was that precedent that brought about the detail of Generals Dent, Porter and Babcock for General Grant.

coek for General Grant.

President Arthur's private secretary was Fred.

Phillips.

President Hayes's private secretary was Colonel
Rodgers.

NEWS FROM THE SUBURBS.

A JUDGE ON HIS MUSCLE. Law Judge Andrew Kirkpatrick, of Newark, is a nuscular man, about forty-three years old, well conected and wealthy. He is a Democrat, and was ap-pointed by Governor Abbett to succeed Judge McCarter, who has since died. As Presiding Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, he presides over the Orphans' Court. The will of James E. Bathgate, sr., came up on Tuesday last by an objection filed against the in ventory of the executor, John Bathgate. Judge Kirkpatrick, before proceeding with the case, said to the counsel that he had heard more or 1945 "street-corner gossip and back-office talk" concerning his connec tion with this case, and he wanted to know at one whether the counsel knew any reason why he should not hear it.

Elwood Harris, counsel for one of the creditors replied that he had no objection to make at that time he would object, however, if he deemed such a course necessary in the interests of his clients. The case

possess any particular significance. The fact has transpired that on the morning before the opening of the court James E. Bathgate, jr., the client of Harris, met Judge Kirkpatrick and attempted to speak to him about the case. Judge Kirkpatrick refused to say anything about the matter, and attempted to cut the interview short. Bathgate persisted, and when the Judge walked away caught him by the arm of his Judge walked away caught him by the arm of his coat to detain him. The next instant Judge Kirkpatrick's fist was planted against Bathgate, who was leaning against a staircase, and caught the railing to save himself from a fall. Judge Kirkpatrick walked off. It appears that the Judge at one time acted as counsel for James E. Bathgate, st., and was familiar with the facts in Bitgation. Mr. Harris represented James E. Bathgate, jr., in the same case, and there was James E. Bathgate, ir. in the same case, and there was James E. Bathgate, jr., in the same case, and there was James E. Bathgate, ir. in the same case, and type Kirkpatrick in court. When asked yesterday about the affair Judge Kirkpatrick said he had only pushed Mr. Bathgate. the court James E. Bathgate, Jr., the client of Harris,

A BANNER "DOWNED" BY POETRY.

The Mount Vernon Democrats, early in the campaign put up a hybrid combination banner of such diminutive tze as suggested that it might have been soaked in a solution of alum water. It was suspended in front of a liquor store at Fourth-ave, and First-st., and even after their defeat the Democrats kept the portraits of Cleveland and Thurman, with the names of David B. Hill and Edward F. Jones underneath each, as a corsoling antidote. But as the banner shut out the electric light from the avenue, several petitions were sent to the town trustees to have it removed. Trustee Eigelow presented the following resolution at the Fri day night meeting: WHEREAS:

For some time past, by our good will, A hybrid banner, neither National nor State, With Cleveland's portrait, but with name of Hill, A broken slate of sundry candidates. Has breasted wind, snow and rain, and even fate, Until our townsmen much have said of late. To the effect-we simply quote-

"That thing was riddled by the people's vote."

AND WHEREAS:

The good folk of our town. Say, Banque-like, it will not down; But by its dismai flapping flight Confounds their eyes, shuts out electric light; And this, although the late unpleasantness Entities this strange banner to a rest; THEREFORE, RESOLVED:

And consigned to innocuous desuctude.

A CITY OR A PART OF A CITY. A petition is circulating in Mount Vernon and has but the fact that we are receiving mail orders for more ceived many signatures in favor of annexation to than ONE HUNDRED BOXES PER DAY of this won-New-York City. The boundaries of the city are now derful rem within a mile of Moun Vernon, and the committee appointed by the Citizens' Association a year ago, although opposed to immediate steps toward a change in the corporate life of the town, foresaw that within two years a charge would be necessary, either to Those who are in favor of a city charter agree that the centre of government, if annexed, will be thirteen miles from the town; that a Republican town will probably have a Democratic Alderman and a Democratic Assemblyman; Mount Vernon would have to assume its proportion of New-York's \$132,000,000 debt; that taxes would be higher, and that improved the thirteen and the higher, and that improved in the already annexed districts have been made.

Those in favor of annexation argue that annexation would give a much better supply of water, both in quantity and quality, and at one-tenth of the present cost; would give a perfect sewerage system, an improved public school system, a free fire department, lower taxes, and would do away with the present expense of town officers. the centre of government, if annexed, will be thirteen

UNCONSCIOUS FOR MORE THAN A MONTH. A singular case is engaging the attention of the medical staff of the Jersey City Hospital. On Octotaken to the hospital, suffering from the combined effects of rum and a brutal bearing at the hands of as artistically upholstered "FANCY CHAIRS," "ROCK. ber 30 Mrs. Thomas Silk, of No. 130 Bay-st., was her husband. She was unconscious then, and has ERS,""TABLES," "DESKS," &c. &c. &c. ing had any lucid interval. At times she murmurs as We respectfully request our customers to make their selec-If in'a troubled dream and occasionally she opens her eyes, but she has not spoken or given any indication eyes, but she has not spoken or given any indication of consciousness. The only nourishment she takes is milk, and sometimes she goes two or three days without any nourishment. Dr. McFarland, the resident surgeon, says that the only occasion when she manifests any signs of life is when she becomes delirious. At all other times she appears to be at the point of death. Dr. McFarland thinks that she cannot recover, but if she should come out of the coma she will not have possession of her senses. Silk is in the County Jail awaiting the result.

A DEACON DIES IN CHURCH.

William Cargill, an aged and much respected deacon in the Nyack Eaptist Church, died suddenly of heart failure while attending service in that church last evening. Mr. Cargill and his wife entered the church before the opening of the service and took their ac customed seat in front. They had been sitting there evening. There were iwenty-six candidates. The but a few moments when Mr. Cargill was seen to musical service by the vested choir of thirty voices throw his head back and sink down into his seat. was elaborate. The Rev. William Richmond conducted Several persons jumped up at once and went to where he was sitting, and in a few seconds they saw that he was dead. Mr. Cargill was nearly eighty-two years old and had lived at Nyack for about six years. He was in good circumstances and was not engaged in any business. He was well known in New-York City, having in years past been on the police force in that city and having done efficient detective service there. He leaves, besides his widow, three married daughters, suburban village.

from concount oil. The junior member of the firm was a widow, and Levi S. Tenney held her notes for 83,060. Mrs. Herron recently removed to New-York, and Tenney, becoming alarmed, got judgment against her. Sheriff Davis levied on the factory, and it was placed in the care of a former foreman named wilson. A few days ago Wilson disappeared, and shortly afterward the entire stock of the concern was missing senth-st. New-York, and

The Free Public Library Association will meet to norrow evening in the Aldermen's chamber to elect permanent officers and receive the report of the Committee on the Plan of Operation.

An excellent piece of work was done to-day by he police in the capture of seven notorious thieves. Officers Tracy, Tyler and Barnett noticed a light in officers Tracy, Tyler and Barnett noticed a light in the parior of Michael Smith's house at No. 17 Exchange place. Tyler caught a glimpse of two men change place. Tyler caught a glimpse of two men changes in collecting articles of value. When the thieves omerced from the house tack were quietly collared. They were Peter Smith and Charles Meyer. On returning to their posts the officers were approached. On returning to their posts the officers were approached. They were peters were approached of the service which the kind evangelist was unable to perform, such as reading the hymns and notices.

WEST BRIGHTON.—Tollecman signakoff, white particle which the kind evangelist was unable to their posts the officers were approached. r Special Officer Declar, who said that he had noticed a suspicious gang of men just entering No. 136 Mechanic-st. A raid was made and five men were captured. They give their names as Edward wegenan, Ka i Mullen, Henry Meyer, August Flardick and Nicholas Holzer.

VARIOUS NEW-JERSEY TOWNS.

ELIZABETH.—Mrs. Margaret Drake, wife of General

J. Madison Drake. Editor of "The Sunday Leader,"
was returning from New York on a Pennsylvania train
on Friday, and as the train crossed the bridge over
the Hackensack River, something, probably a torpedo,
exploded underneath the car, shattering the glass of the Hackensack River, something, probably a torpedu-exploded underneath the car, shattering the glass of the window at which Mrs. Drake was sitting. The pieces of glass flew in her face, cutting it severely in pieces of glass flew in her face, cutting it severely in pieces of piaces. This would

been half a dozen are lights in the most prominent positions on Main-st., and nine tenths of the remaining streets were lit by gas tamps, while the outlying districts were in darkness. . A window was placed in St. Mark's Church last week in memory of Caleb and Kelurah Harrison, by Miss Phoebe Harrison, their daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Harrison were two of the original founders of the parish. . Bishop Starkey, of the Diocese of Newark, held a confirmal litical vengeance if he does not get the office.

Abrnold, Constable & Co.

A fine assortment of DRESS PATTERNS For the HOLIDAYS, in

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The above will be placed on a SEPARATE COUNTER and marked in PLAIN FIGURES.

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TRIMMED WRAPS

WORKMANSHIP

DRUGGISTS of preminence throughout New-York and vicinity have



DYSPEPSIA INDIGESTION

Holiday Goods,



41 . 43 . 6 45 W. 14 "ST.

tion service in All Saints' Church, Orange Valley, last

WEST-HESTER COUNTY.

MOUNT VELINON.—The East Chester supervisorship appears to be still in a modelle. By request of Mr. Hickey a meeting of the Town Board of Auditors was held on Saturday at which he forther requested that they would examine and audit his accounts. This they were disposed to do, but on examining the laws relating to the subject, they found that they had no authority to audit Mr. Hickey's bill until the Tuesday immediately preceding the town meeting.

LONG ISLAND.

BRIDGEPORT.—The Lodge of Elks will be honored on the opening night of the proposed hirmess, on Sat-urday, by the presence of Governor-elect Morgan G. Bulkeley, ex-Grand Ruler Dr. Hamilton E. Leach, of Washington, and other noted Elks, who will make ad-

MORWALK.—St. Paul's parish has accepted the resignation of the liev. Howard S. Clapp, and called the liev. Charles M. Sellick, a former rector.
Miss Jane Richards, ag: seventy-seven, full down stairs on Friday evening at her forme. No. 9 Maples-st., and was fatally injured. She was partially blind. SOUTH NORWALK. Fr. Mayor Richard H. Golden and Miss Josephine A. Newcomb will be married at Trinity Church on Thursday.

STATEN ISLAND.

reling his nost yesterday morning, met three men, each of whom had several fowls in his possession. The officer soon learned that the men had reided the hennery of Daniel Ryen, ha Seventh-ave, New-Brighton, and he arrested them. They gave their names as Richard Itamon, Thomas Noran and Daniel Collins, alias Dick Turpin.

TROUBLE OVER THE CHOICE OF A SHERIFF.

a number of places.

ORANGE.—The city was lit by electricity for the inspectors by order of the Sales subsequently by the inspectors by order of the Sales with would check the first time on Friday night. Heretofore there have been half a dozen are lights in the most prominent returns at the distation of the Supervisors.